



# Tempe Art in Private Development

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## U.S. Airways Corporate Headquarters

111 W. Rio Salado Parkway

### Otto Rigan

*Duet*, 1999

Limestone, glass, sandstone,  
concrete and water

Artist website:

[www.OttoRiganStudio.com](http://www.OttoRiganStudio.com)

**Description:** This artist-designed courtyard contains Otto Rigan's classic monoliths of sandstone and glass, this time featured in pairs. The title *Duet* also alludes to two half circles that provide seating. Landscaping and lighting further enhance the site. *Duet* contains some of the artist's *Markers* in an artist-designed sculpture courtyard. *Markers* seek to find a balance between the unpredictability of found material, and the exactness of the sawn "marks." In these pieces the artist seeks parity, balancing the conscious and unselfconscious components. *Duet* earned the U.S. Airways Corporate Headquarters team a Beautification Award for Art in Private Development Excellence in 2000.

**Artist biography:** Although Rigan trained as a painter, he has pursued many broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary projects throughout his career. While still in college he completed his first large-scale public commission. In his early 20s, Rigan apprenticed to a master architectural glass craftsman. He then wrote and photographed four books and lectured widely on their subjects. While in his 30s, Rigan began to develop the sculpture for which he is most noted. His sculptural explorations reflect his interest in the temporality of glass and how it manipulates light, merged with the physicality of stone – a metaphor for architecture, permanence, and the organic. Rigan splits his time between making studio-based autonomous works to large-scale public and corporate spaces. The larger commissions often merge architecture, landscape and other disciplines as an extension of the artist's palette.

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